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**PATENT
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

PAUL S. BRADLEY et al.

Serial No.: 09/886,771

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: June 21, 2001

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: Clustering of Databases Having Mixed Data Attributes

Docket: 15-769

Watts, Hoffmann, Fisher
& Heinke Co., L.P.A.
PO Box 99839
Cleveland, Ohio 44199-0839
Telephone: (216) 241-6700
Telecopier: (216) 241-8151

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box No Fee Amendment
Washington, D.C. 20231

By: *[Signature]*
on 8/13/01
Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Prior to substantive examination of this application, please amend this application as follows:

In the Specification:

Replace the paragraph beginning at Page 17, Line 12 extending through page 17, line 22 with the following paragraph:

Here, μ is the mean of the cluster with index ab.

Distance between two discrete cluster attributes is :

$\text{dist_d}(\text{conf}(\text{PC}_{ab}), \text{conf}(\text{PC}_{cd})) = | \text{prob}(\text{conf}(\text{PC}_{ab})) - \text{prob}(\text{conf}(\text{PC}_{cd})) |$. One

then must take into account all the M attributes that are discrete: